

March 2, 1943.

B. D. DRAIN

Plant Pat. 570

STRAWBERRY PLANT

Filed Oct. 10, 1941

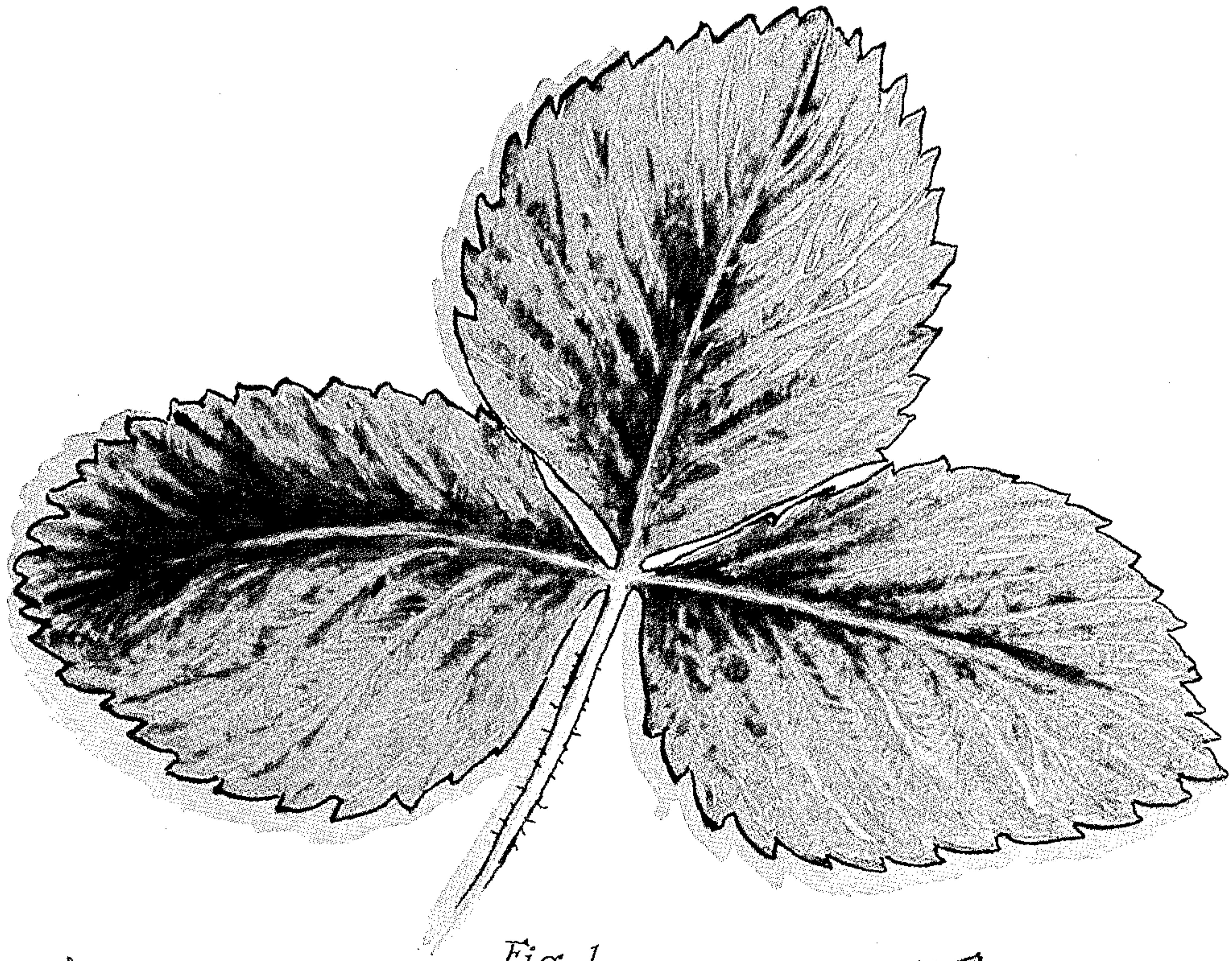


Fig. 1

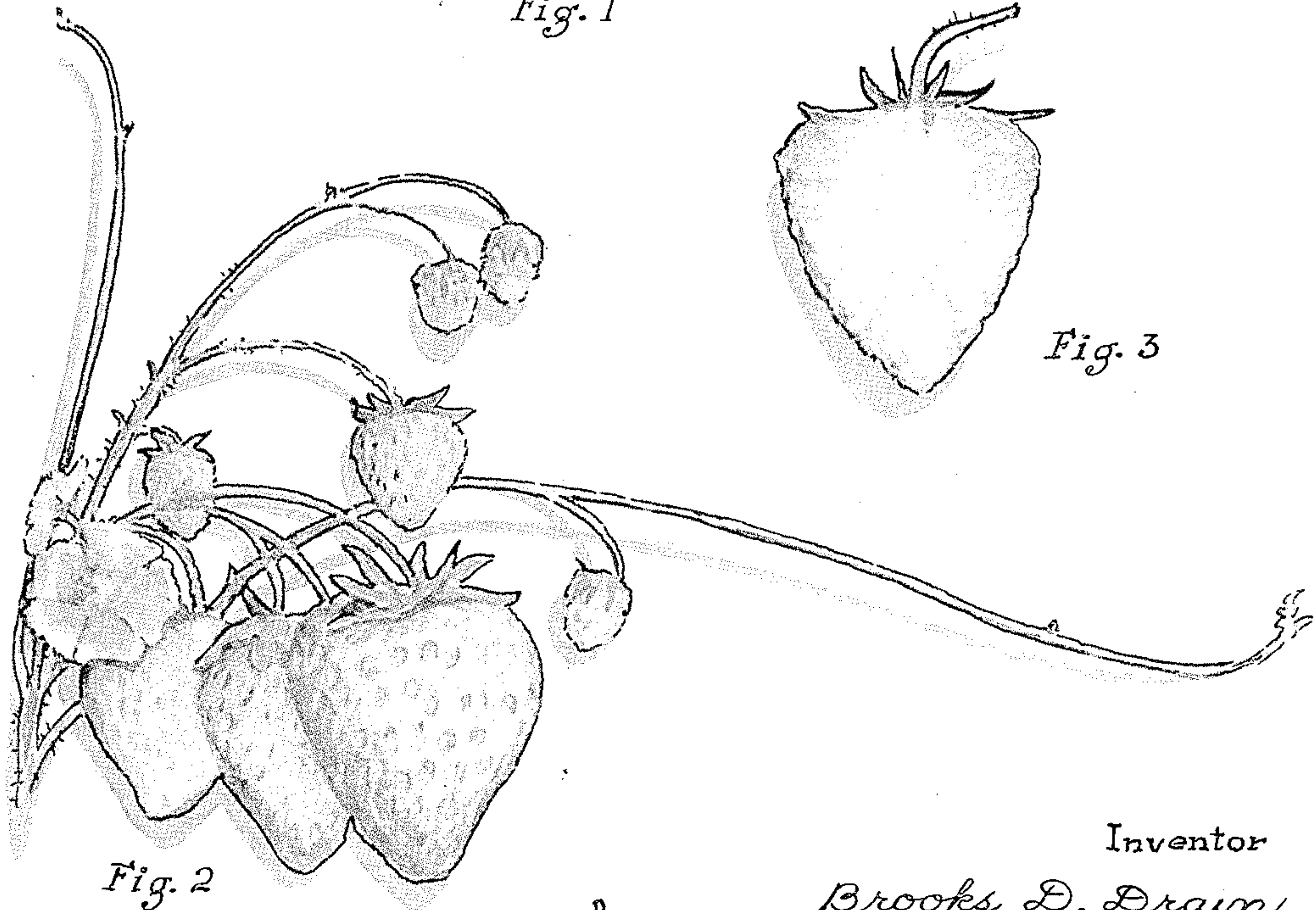


Fig. 2

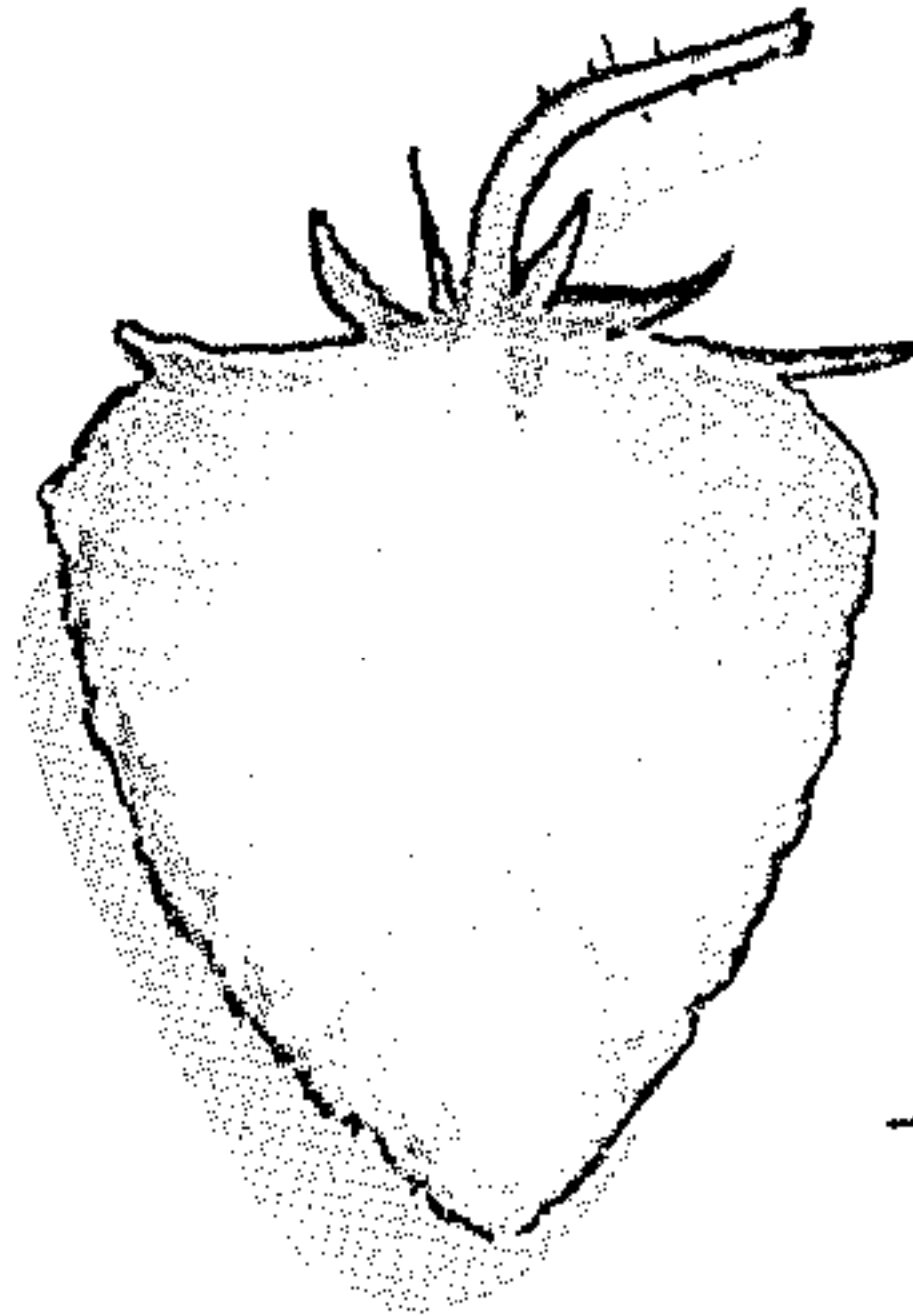


Fig. 3

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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

570

## STRAWBERRY PLANT

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tion, Knoxville, Tenn., a corporation of Ten-  
nessee

Application October 10, 1941, Serial No. 414,531

## 1 Claim. (Cl. 47—62)

This invention pertains to the asexual repro-  
duction of berry plants, and specifically to the  
asexual reproduction of a new and distinct variety  
of strawberry produced by the artificial pollina-  
tion of the Missionary plant with pollen from the  
Blakemore strawberry.

The object of the invention is to produce a new  
variety of strawberry plant which possesses bet-  
ter commercial qualities than varieties now in  
existence and which is particularly adapted to the  
soil and climate of the State of Tennessee.

The new variety yields firm fruit of better color  
and heavier production than the Missionary,  
which is considered poorly adapted to the soil and  
climate of the State of Tennessee. It is free  
from the "yellow leaf" trouble which is so de-  
structive among Blakemore plants and its fruit  
is of marketable size throughout the picking  
season.

In the accompanying drawing:

Fig. 1 is a view of a leaf of the plant showing its  
color and other characteristics;

Fig. 2 is a view of a fruiting stem of the plant  
showing ripe and green berries and including a  
view of a blossom showing the blossom charac-  
teristics; and

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section of a berry of the  
new plant showing its internal color and charac-  
teristics.

In producing the plant of the present invention,  
the pollen of the Blakemore strawberry was  
placed in the blossom of Missionary plants, the  
pollen-producing parts of the blossoms of the  
Missionary having first been removed. The pol-  
lenated blossoms were then protected so that they  
could not receive pollen from any other plant, and  
were allowed to develop into fruit. The seeds  
from this fruit were then planted and permitted  
to sprout, and after the plants had grown to suf-  
ficient size, they were transplanted and allowed  
to fruit in the field. At about the time the plants  
were fruiting in the field each plant and its vege-  
tatively developed runner plants were examined for  
freedom from insects and diseases and for desir-  
able growth habits. The fruit was also tasted  
and examined for desirable fruit characteristics.  
The best among a large number of seedlings was  
then selected and saved and propagated asexually,  
using runner plants to produce the plant of the  
present invention. All of the plants which are  
now growing, including the one from which the  
accompanying drawing was made, have come  
from this original seedling.

The new variety differs from its parent varie-  
ties in numerous respects. The individual plants

are larger than those of Blakemore. Fewer run-  
ner plants are developed than in Blakemore. The  
new variety is not susceptible to the "yellow leaf"  
trouble which attacks Blakemore. The fruit av-  
erages larger in size than the fruit of Blakemore,  
is less acid, and retains its size throughout the  
picking season. It is about four days later than  
Blakemore in season of ripening.

The new variety is less acid than Missionary  
and the fruit is firmer and of a brighter red color  
than that of Missionary. The plants grow lower  
than those of Missionary. The new variety has  
given good yields under Tennessee conditions un-  
satisfactory to Missionary. It is particularly  
adapted to the soil and climate of the State of  
Tennessee.

One vigorous mother plant of the new variety  
will produce from a few to more than one hundred  
runner plants, depending upon soil fertility and  
growing conditions, and large crops of light red  
berries will be produced in early season. The  
foliage of the plant is dense, the leaves are medi-  
um in size with thick petioles. Some leaf blight  
and leaf spot have been noted but the foliage is  
comparatively healthy.

The berries produced by this plant are medium  
in size and retain their size throughout the season.  
They are conic in shape and somewhat necked,  
smoothly formed, regular and uniform. The sur-  
face of the berry is glossy, evenly colored light red  
and rarely shows green tips. The flesh is very  
firm, medium juicy, and of a medium red in color,  
becoming somewhat whitish toward the center.  
The fruit is sub-acid to tart, good in flavor and  
firm.

Other characteristics of the new variety are as  
follows:

Plants: Medium in number. Medium in vigor.  
Medium height. Very productive. Spring-  
bearing.

Susceptibility:

*Insects.*—Weevil (sometimes serious).

*Diseases.*—Some blight and leaf spot.

Runners: Medium in thickness. Medium in  
length. Internodes medium.

Leaves: Medium in size. Medium green. Ru-  
gose. Glossy.

Petiole: Thick.

Flowers: Perfect.

*Date of bloom.*—April 13, 1941.

*Length of blooming season.* 33 days.

*Size.*—Diameter 1 inch. Medium.

Picking quality: Very good.

Shipping quality: Very good. Medium in size.  
 Retains size. Uniform fruits. Regular in  
 shape. Conic. Necked.  
 Apex: Pointed. Rarely green tipped.  
 Surface color: Light red. Glossy. Attractive. 5  
 Colors evenly.  
 Calyx: Medium in size. Raised.  
 Color.—Light green.  
 Adherence to fruit.—Good.  
 Sepals: Medium in length. Narrow. 10  
 Seeds: Medium in number. Sunken.  
 Petals: Number 5 to 7. Medium in size.  
 Stamens: Numerous.  
 Receptacle: Small.  
 Fruit-stems: Long. Medium in thickness. 15  
 Erect.  
 Pedicels: Medium length. Medium thickness.  
 Fruit:  
 Season.—Early.

Date of ripening: May 7, 1941.  
 Length of season: All of May.  
 Flesh: Medium red. Whitish towards center.  
 Medium juicy. Firm. Subacid. Sprightly.  
 Quality: Good.  
 Use: Kitchen. Market.  
 Desirability: Good for shipping.  
 Remarks: Very firm, uniform, light colored  
 berry that sizes up well and retains its size  
 throughout the season. Medium plant maker,  
 but plants are vigorous.  
 Classification: Strawberry.  
 What is claimed is:  
 A healthy, prolific, fruiting strawberry plant  
 variety substantially as illustrated and described,  
 characterized by subacid, well flavored fruits  
 which are medium red throughout, and by the  
 development of a large number of runner plants.  
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